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Federal Agencies

June 29, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1614

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/630,896; Filed: July 31, 2003
For: **Aryl Substituted Benzimidazoles and Their Use as Sodium Channel Blockers**
Inventors: SUN *et al.*
Our Ref: 1861.1520001/JMC/CMB

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

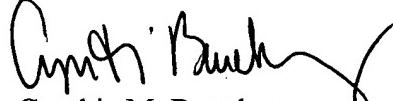
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
June 29, 2005
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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JMC/CMB:krh
Enclosures

414466v1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SUN *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/630,896

Filed: July 31, 2003

For: **Aryl Substituted Benzimidazoles
and Their Use as Sodium Channel
Blockers**

Confirmation No.: 9619

Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Freistein

Atty. Docket: 1861.1520001/JMC/CMB

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. This Preliminary Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent

abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.